THE ART EXHIBITION CATALOGUES OF THE VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM

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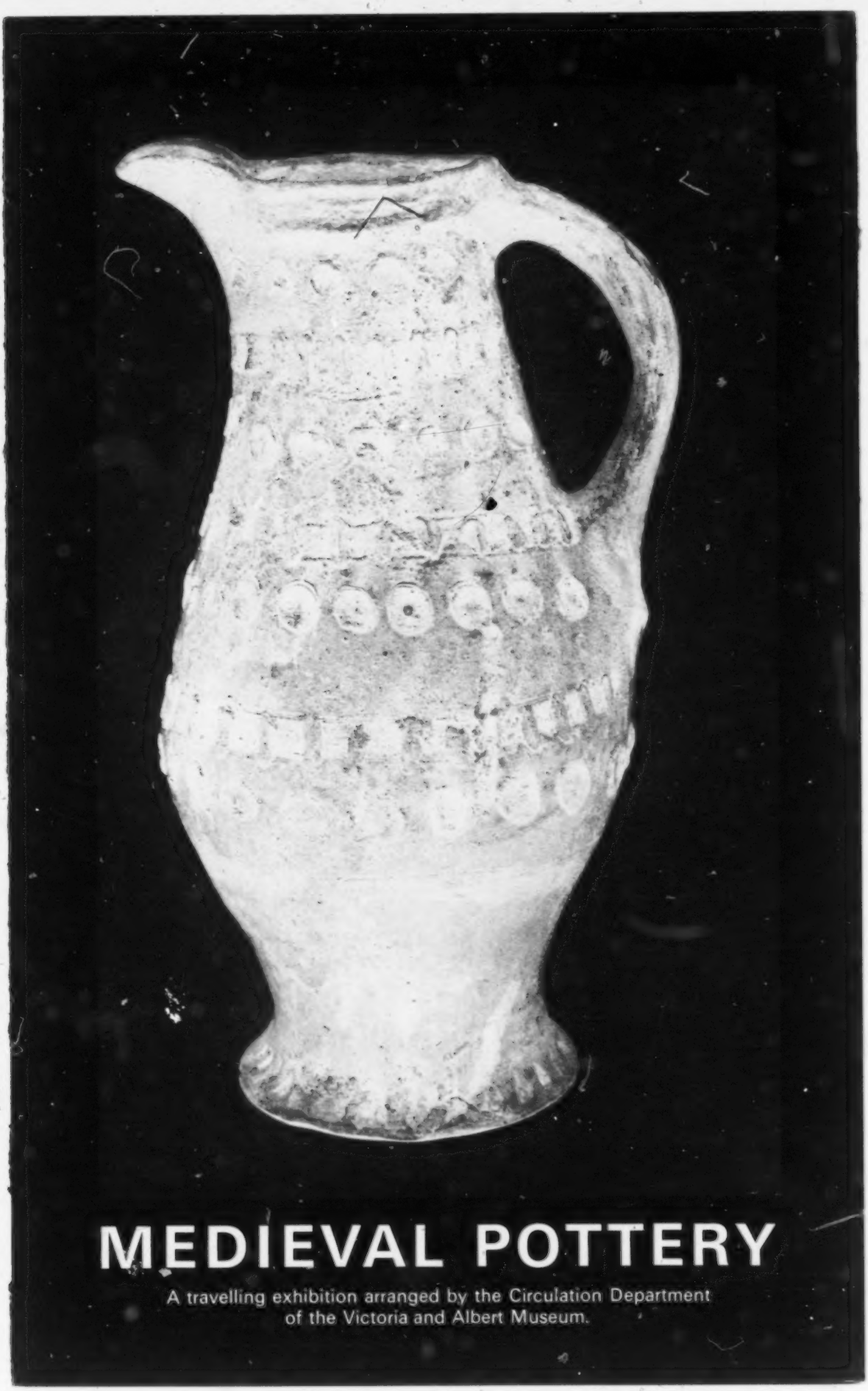

MEDIEVAL POTTERY

A travelling exhibition arranged by the Circulation Department
of the Victoria and Albert Museum.

This exhibition attempts to give a general survey of medieval pottery produced in this country, together with imports from the continent. Some Late Saxon and Norman ware has been included because the forms foreshadow the medieval period.

The finest medieval pottery was made in the 13th century. During the 14th and 15th centuries the shapes and decoration became less spontaneous due to the influence of metalwork and more developed means of production.

CASE 1 SAXON AND NORMAN PERIOD

1 **STAMFORD WARE PITCHER** with thin green glaze. Tubular spout close to the rim, two lateral strap handles. Early 12th century. Height 23 cms. Found at site of Grey Friars, Stamford. Lent by the Peterborough Museum.

2 **THETFORD WARE COOKING-POT.** Rim slightly hollowed, wheel-marked on both surfaces, sagging base, knife-trimmed. C.1000. Height 11 cms. Found on site of new playing fields for Thetford Boys' Grammar School. Lent by the Norfolk County Council Education Committee.

3 **ST. NEOTS WARE BOWL** of dark grey ware with crushed shell, buff surface. Inbent flanged rim and flat base. Height 7·5 cms. Found on Rogers Porter's site, Bedford. Lent by the Bedford Modern School Collection, Bedford Museum.

4 **TRIPOD PITCHER** of grey sandy ware with thin light green glaze on neck and body. Combed decoration on top of rim and vertically on neck. Handle and tubular spout missing. C.1100. Height 21·4 cms. Found at Corfe Castle, Dorset. Lent by the Dorset County Museum.

5 **CRUCIBLE** of coarse gritty ware. Boat-shaped with round base and pinched lip. Height 9 cms. Lent by the City Museum, Chichester.

6 **OLD SARUM COOKING-POT** of reddish gritty ware, scratch-marked. Everted rim. 12th century. Height 12 cms. Found at Old Sarum, Wiltshire. Lent by the Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum.

CASE 2 LONDON JUGS

7 **JUG OF METAL INFLUENCE.** Whitish ware with overall thick yellowish-green glaze. Narrow neck, globular body, waisted foot with spreading base. Tubular spout ending in a conventionalised animal head with open mouth. Zones of girth-grooves on body and foot. 15th century. Height 21·8 cms. Found in Whitefriars Street, London. Lent by the London Museum.

8 **DECORATED JUG IMITATING IMPORT FROM NORMANDY.** Pinkish-buff ware with light green glaze. Angular shoulder and spreading base. The neck and upper part of body are decorated alternately with strips and pellets of white slip against a ground of reddish-brown slip. Late 13th century. Height 25·7 cms. Found in Lime Street, London. Lent by the London Museum.

9 **PLAIN BALUSTER JUG** of buff ware with light yellowish-green glaze. Late 13th century. Height 40·7 cms. Found at St. Martins-Le-Grand, London. Lent by the London Museum.

10 **PLAIN BICONICAL JUG** of light red ware with splashes of thin yellowish-green glaze on upper part. 13th century. Height 21·8 cms. Found in Threadneedle Street, London. Lent by the London Museum.

11 **JUG OF SQUAT TYPE.** Grey sandy ware with reddish-brown surface. Green glaze on neck and upper part of body. Plain rod handle. Sagging base with spaced thumb-marks on basal angle. Decorated with vertical lines of white slip on neck and upper part of body. 13th century. Height 18·2 cms. Found at Bunhill Fields, London. Lent by G. C. Dunning.

12 **CONICAL JUG** of reddish-buff ware coated with white slip. Speckled green glaze. Pinched spout and thumb-pressed base. Decorated with combed vertical stripes. Probably 14th century. Height 27 cms. Found in Coleman Street, London. Lent by the London Museum.

13 **DECORATED OVOID JUG** of light red ware with greenish-yellow glaze. Decorated in white slip on a reddish-brown ground with panels of chevrons and dots alternating with panels of scale-patterns in the form of trailing sprays. On neck, smaller panels of dots form triangular zones containing rosettes. 13th century. Height 48·2 cms. Found in refuse pit beside St. Stephen's Church, Coleman Street, London. Lent by the London Museum.

CASE 3 REGIONAL JUGS

14 **RED-PAINTED JUG.** Covered with white slip and painted in dark red with vertical lines alternating with stars. Bridge-spout and strap handle. Late 13th century. Height 33 cms. A waster from the kiln-site at Rye. Lent by the Rye Museum.

15 **SHERD** from jug of grey sandy ware with green glaze. Incised with the head of a woman wearing a pointed cap. Late 13th century. Width 8 cms. From kilns at Rye. Lent by G. C. Dunning.

16 **WEST SUSSEX TYPE** of grey ware with buff surface and light green glaze. Rod handle, base continuously thumb-pressed. Incised decoration on neck and body. C.1300. Height 29 cms. No provenance. Lent by the City Museum, Chichester.

17 **TYLER HILL WARE JUG.** Grey ware with light red surface, unglazed. Conical shape, oval handle, base roughly thumb-pressed. Decorated with zones of combed lines. C.1300. Height 34·1 cms. Excavated from a well in Canterbury Lane, Canterbury. Lent by the Royal Museum, Canterbury.

18 **LAVERSTOCK JUG** of grey ware with yellow-brown glaze. Bridge-spout, stabbed handle, waisted foot and thumb-pressed base. Three horizontal bands of red-brown painted and applied decoration alternate with rows of brown, thumb-pressed pads. Late 13th century. Height 38 cms. Found in kiln at Laverstock, Wiltshire. Lent by the Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum.

19 **FACE MASK** of pinkish-buff ware with green glaze. The face has a short beard and two mouths. A spout passes through upper mouth. C.1260. Height 9 cms. Found in kiln at Laverstock, Wiltshire. Lent by the Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum.

20 **WHITE-PAINTED JUG** of grey ware with white-painted decoration of straight and wavy lines on upper part. Globular type with pinched spout of trefoil shape. 14th century. Height 16·7 cms. Found on the site of the George Hotel, Winchester. Lent by the City Museum, Winchester.

21 **PORTION OF FACE-JUG** of hard, dark green ware with green glaze. Decorated on body with vertical brown stripes. On either side of rim protrudes a face with a short, slashed beard. Pairs of arms decorated with incised arcs stretch from neck to shoulder of jug. 13th century. Height 15 cms. Made at Grimston, near King's Lynn, Norfolk and found in London. Lent by the London Museum.

22 **BRILL JUG** of dark brown sandy ware with patchy green-brown glaze. Globular with squared rim and simple pinched lip. Slashed strap-handle is double-thumbed at the top. Incised grooves on neck. 14th century. Height 30 cms. Excavated from kiln-site at Brill, Buckinghamshire. Lent by Professor E. M. Jope.

CASE 4 REGIONAL JUGS AND LIQUID CONTAINERS

23 **LONG-BEARDED FACE-JUG** of buff ware with reddish-brown glaze on neck, shading to green on body. Body decorated with applied vertical, cabled strips in dark brown. Each beard is grasped at the lower end by a hand. Other arms are crossed below bridge-spout. C.1300. Height 50·8 cms. From kiln near Clinton Street, Nottingham. Lent by Nottingham Castle Museum.

24 **KNIGHT JUG** of light orange-red ware with overall dark green glaze. On each side are two knights. Below the tubular spout is a stag. C.1300. Height 41·3 cms. Probably made at Scarborough. Found in High Street, Dartford, Kent. Lent by Leslie C. Dale.

25 **GLOBULAR JUG** of grey ware with buff surface and dark green glaze. Strap handle. Corrugated surface is typical of Nottingham kilns. C.1300. Height 27·3 cms. Found at Nottingham Castle. Lent by the City Museum and Art Gallery, Birmingham.

26 **STAMP-DECORATED JUG** of grey ware with lightened surface and yellowish-green glaze. Rod handle. Base continually tool-marked. Decorated with applied grid-shaped pads. C.1300. Height 37·5 cms. Found at Nottingham Castle. Lent by the City Museum and Art Gallery, Birmingham.

27 **AQUAMANILE** of grey sandy ware with light green glaze. In the shape of an animal. 13th or 14th century. Height 26 cms. Found at Bulbridge, near Wilton. Lent by the Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum.

28 **COSTREL** of flattened, spherical type. Buff ware with mottled yellow and green glaze. Late medieval. Height 14·8 cms. Found in Gray's Inn Road, London. Lent by the Guildhall Museum.

29 **COSTREL** of cylindrical type. Buff ware with mottled green glaze on upper part. 13th century. Length 22·7 cms. Found at Mere, Wiltshire. Lent by the Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum.

CASE 5 DOMESTIC WARES

30 **COOKING-POT** of fairly coarse red ware with uneven surface. Globular in shape, with bell-mouth and sagging base. 13th century. Height 20·3 cms. Found in grounds of Rougemont House, Exeter. Lent by the Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter.

31 **SKILLET** of dark grey, gritty ware with light red surface. Deep, straight-sided bowl with flanged rim and sagging base. Tubular socket projects upwards from rim. 13th century. Height 15·2 cms. Found on site of new railway station, Lewes. Lent by Sussex Archaeological Society, Lewes.

32 **MORTAR** with green glaze. Vertical ribs down side. Panels of finger-pressed applied strips. C.1260. Height 14·5 cms. Found in kilns at Laverstock, Wiltshire. Lent by the Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum.

33 **JUG-SHAPED CISTERN** of buff ware with thick, dark green glaze on upper part. Broad handle with incised lines and stab-marks. Bung-hole has finger-tip decoration. Sagging base thumb-pressed all round edge. 15th century. Height 27·6 cms. Found in Bell Alley, London. Lent by the London Museum.

34 **LARGE PORTION OF CISTERN.** Dark grey sandy ware with decoration painted in white slip on upper part. Two bung-holes. 15th century. Height 41 cms. From kilns, excavated by Mrs. E. M. Minter, at St. German's, Cornwall. Lent by The Lord Eliot of Port Eliot, St. German's, Cornwall.

35 **LID** of coarse grey, gritty ware. Dome-shaped with small knob. Flat rim. 12th century. Height 8·4 cms. Diameter 20·8 cms. Excavated from pit in George Street, Exeter. Lent by the Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter.

38 **WHISTLE OR BIRD-CALL** of pinkish-white ware with green glaze. Pear-shaped body set on a foot. A tubular mouthpiece projects from one side. Late medieval. Height 6·7 cms. Found in Barnham Street, London. Lent by the London Museum.

37 **MONEY BOX** of buff sandy ware with mottled bright green glaze on upper part. Granary shape with pointed top. 14th century. Height 6·9 cms. Found in Paternoster Row, London. Lent by G. C. Dunning.

36 **CRESSET LAMP** of hard, sandy, hand-made grey pottery containing a little crushed shell. 13th century. Height 8·6 cms. From London Wall. Lent by the London Museum.

CASE 6 THE IMPORT OF POTTERY FROM THE CONTINENT

39 **JUG FROM ROUEN** of fine buff ware with pale green glaze. Narrow strap handle with two spurs at upper end. Red slip on neck and body to below the bulge as background to zonal decoration. Veined leaves applied with a stamp, alternate with rows of small pellets. Late 13th century. Height 19·2 cms. Found in Rouen. Lent by G. C. Dunning.

40 **JUG FROM SOUTH-WEST FRANCE.** Whitish ware with green glaze. Barrel-shaped with bridge-spout. Late 13th century. Height 29 cms. From an excavation at Quilter's Vaults, Lower High Street, Southampton. Lent by the Tudor House Museum, Southampton.

41 **BOWL FROM MALAGA** of pinkish-buff ware with thin glaze. The decoration is in pale blue and soft golden lustre; inside a complicated pattern of Moorish spirals and outside a typical Mediterranean design of the 13th and 14th centuries. 14th century. Height 9 cms. Found in Leadenhall Street, London. Lent by the London Museum.

42 **FRAGMENT OF JUG FROM AARDENBURG, ZEELAND.** Grey ware with light red surface, covered with thin white slip and mottled green glaze. Decorated with applied notched strips and rows of pushed-out bosses. C.1300. Height 23·4 cms. Found in Regent Street, Great Yarmouth. Lent by the Castle Museum, Norwich.

43 **SHERDS** from the kilns at Brunssum, south Limburg, Holland. The ware is red-painted. 12th to early 13th century. (a) Upper part of pitcher with tubular spout. (b) Rim of cooking-pot with lattice pattern. Lent by G. C. Dunning.

44 **SHERDS** from the kilns at Andenne, near Namur, in southern Belgium. The ware is white or yellow-toned with clear yellow glaze. Probably 13th century. (a) Collared-rim of pitcher. (b) Bowl with flanged rim and rouletting on side: the inside is entirely glazed. Lent by G. C. Dunning.

45 **SHERD OF POLYCHROME WARE FROM SAINTONGE.** White ware with colourless glaze. Painted decoration of a green bird and a yellow shield outlined in dark brown. Late 13th century. Height 17 cms. Found in Blossom's Inn Yard, London. Lent by the Guildhall Museum.

46 **NECK OF POLYCHROME JUG FROM SAINTONGE.** White ware with colourless glaze. Painted floral decoration in green and yellow, outlined in dark brown. Bridge-spout and strap handle. Applied mask on each side of rim. Late 13th century. Height 12·5 cms. Found in King William Street, London. Lent by the Guildhall Museum.

The Museum would like to take this opportunity of thanking all those who have so generously lent objects for this exhibition, and also Mr. Gerald Dunning and Mr. Brian Spencer for their invaluable assistance in compiling this catalogue.